

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI :EWBIZIC:WBSMITH;WD

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SCUL, SEDU, IS

SUBJECT: BICENTENNIAL PROGRAMS: EMBASSY PROPOSAL

1. PER CHARGE'S TELCON REQUEST MAY 20, WE HAVE DISCUSSED WITH USIA AND OTHERS EMBASSY'S PROPOSAL FOR CREATING KEATING MEMORIAL COLLECTION IN TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY LIBRARY AND FOR USE OF USIA BICENTENNIAL PROGRAMS FUNDING AS SEED MONEY. WE AND USIA ARE GREATLY IN FAVOR OF SEEING AN ACADEMIC OR CULTURAL PROJECT LAUNCHED IN ISRAEL TO HONOR MEMORY OF LATE AMBASSADOR KEATING AND WANT TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO COOPERATE AND ASSIST. USE TO THIS END, HOWEVER, OF USIA'S SPECIAL FUNDS FOR BICENTENNIAL PROGRAMS IS PROBLEMATICAL.

2. CONCEPTION FROM OUTSET OF WORLDWIDE PROJECT FOR BICENTENNIAL PROGRAMS WAS EXTENSION TO LOCAL ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS NOT OF GRANTS IN USUAL SENSE OF TERM BUT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF USG-SPONSORED PROGRAMS WHICH WOULD BE EXPECTED PROBABLY TO REMAIN PERMANENTLY IN LOCAL INSTITUTIONS BUT WOULD CONTINUE TO BE USG-OWNED. USIA IS TO

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TIONS BUT WOULD CONTINUE TO BE USG-OWNED. USIA IS TO

REPORT TO CONGRESS ON EACH PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER APPROPRIATIONS. ON OTHER HAND, A USG-CONTRIBUTED SUM TO BE USED AS SEED MONEY TO HELP OBTAIN PRIVATE FUNDING FOR ESSENTIALLY PRIVATE PROJECT, SUCH AS PROPOSED COLLECTION

WHICH WOULD BE PROPERTY OF TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, WOULD NEED TO BE FREE AND UNFETTERED DIRECT GRANT TO UNIVERSITY, WHICH DOES NOT ACCORD WITH WORLDWIDE BICENTENNIAL PROGRAMS PROJECT.

3. WE PLAN TO CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH USIA TO SEE IF WAYS CAN BE FOUND TO FURTHER EMBASSY'S COMMENDABLE PROPOSAL. AT SAME TIME WE WILL WELCOME ANY ADDITIONAL IDEAS EMBASSY MAY HAVE ON LAUNCHING AN ACADEMIC OR CULTURAL PROGRAM IN ISRAEL TO HONOR MEMORY OF AMBASSADOR KEATING. INGERSOLL

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